

From: [Alt, Nicole](#)
To: [Hughes, John P](#); [Broderdorp, Kurt](#)
Cc: [Williams-shuck, Kathryn L](#)
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Gray Wolf reintroduction and management_Request for Cooperating Agency invitation
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 2:30:13 PM
Attachments: [6_14_2022_Mesa_County_Request_for_Cooperating_Agency_Status_Gray_Wolf_Reintroduction_&_Management.pdf](#)

FYSA

Nicole Alt
Colorado Ecological Services Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Lakewood, Colorado
Phone (303) 236-4213
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The Colorado Ecological Services Office is moving toward 100% electronic project and technical assistance requests. To aid timely responses, please submit all requests to us via email. Send projects to: eastern slope - ColoradoES@fws.gov, or western slope - GrandJunctionES@fws.gov.

From: Alt, Nicole <Nicole_Alt@fws.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 2:29 PM
To: Amber Swasey <amber.swasey@mesacounty.us>
Cc: Hughes, John P <john_hughes@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Gray Wolf reintroduction and management_Request for Cooperating Agency invitation

Thank you for your interest. We recently secured a contractor for the NEPA analysis and will be in touch as we initiate scoping and consider cooperating agency requests. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Nicole Alt

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To: Alt, Nicole <Nicole_Alt@fws.gov>

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Good afternoon Ms. Alt,

Please see the attached letter from the Mesa County Board of Commissioners regarding reviews related to the reintroduction and management of the Gray Wolf. Please let me know if you have any problems accessing the document.

Respectfully,

Amber Swasey

Sr. Managing Analyst



Community Development

Telephone: 970-244-1762



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

District 1 – Cody Davis 970-244-1605

District 2 – Scott Mcinnis 970-244-1604

District 3 – Janet Rowland 970-244-1606

June 14, 2022

Ms. Nicole Alt
Colorado Ecological Services Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
134 Union Boulevard, Suite 670
Lakewood, CO 80228-1807

RE: Request for Cooperating Agency Status for environmental analysis regarding Gray Wolf reintroduction and management in Colorado

Dear Ms. Alt:

The Mesa County Board of County Commissioners ("Mesa County") hereby asserts its right to serve as a Cooperating Agency as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("USFWS") conducts an environmental analysis for the reintroduction and management of the Gray Wolf in Colorado. Of particular interest to Mesa County is the USFWS's consideration of management efforts under Section 10G) of the Endangered Species Act ("ESA").

Authority for Cooperating with Mesa County exists in NEPA, 43 U.S.C §§ 4331(a), 4332(2), and the implementing regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1501.8(a), 1508.1(e), (n), (ee). *See* CEQ Memorandum, *Cooperating Agencies in Implementing the Procedural Requirements of the NEPA*, at 1-2, 4-5 (Jan. 30, 2002). Further, Mesa County has appreciated a cooperative relationship with the USFWS pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding with the USFWS, dated February 26, 2018.

Mesa County has the authority to adopt and enforce ordinances and resolutions regarding health, safety, and welfare issues (Colo. Rev. Stat. § 30-11-101(2)) and has special expertise regarding the social and economic impacts of wolves within our jurisdiction. Our comments will include timely, detailed, and comprehensive analysis of impacts specific to Mesa County.

Thank you for consideration of this request and a timely invitation to cooperate and coordinate with the USFWS. Should you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact a Mesa County Commissioner at (970) 244-1800.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Cody Davis in black ink.

Cody Davis, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

Handwritten signature of Scott Mcinnis in black ink.

Scott Mcinnis
Commissioner

Handwritten signature of Janet Rowland in black ink.

Janet Rowland
Commissioner

cc: Mesa County Board of County Commissioners
Peter Baier, Mesa County Administration
Todd Starr, Mesa County Attorney